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Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BOGOTA 12505 202152Z
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 AID-05
SSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSC-05 /072 W
---------- 072284 /73
R 201939Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8943

UNCLAS BOGOTA 12505

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, ECON, CO
SUBJ: FINANCE MINISTER BOTERO RESIGNS

1. MINISTER OF FINANCE RODRIGO BOTERO HAS PRESENTED HIS RESIGNATION TO PRESIDENT LOPEZ, THUS CULMINATING NEARLY TWO YEARS OF RUMOR, SPECULATION, AND HOPE ON THE PART OF SOME ELEMENTS OF THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY ON THE SUBJECT. THE RESIG-NATION REPORTEDLY WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE EARLY IN JANUARY 1977, AT WHICH TIME BOTERO WILL BE REPLACED BY ABDON ESPINOSA, WHO HELD THE FINANCE PORTFOLIO DURING THE PRESIDENCY OF CARLOS LLERAS.

2. THE APPOINTMENT OF ESPINOSA IS LIKELY TO REPRESENT A CHANGE IN STYLE MORE THAN IN SUBSTANCE. WHILE IT IS DIFFICULT TO MAKE VALID ARGUMENTS AGAINST BOTERO'S BASIC ECONOMIC POLICIES, HE WAS ROUNDLY CRITICIZED FOR HIS INACCESSIBILITY AND HIS UNWILLINGNESS TO ESTABLISH OR MAINTAIN EFFECTIVE LINES OF COMU-MICATION WHIT THE BANKING AND BUSINESS COMMUNITITIES. ESPINOSA, ON THE OTHER HAND IS MORE KNOWLEDGEABLE AS A POLITICAN AND ALSO BRINGS TO THE OFFICE HIGHLY CREDIBLE TOOLS AND EXPERIENCE AS AN ECONOMIC PLANNER.
SANCHEZ

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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